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Message Text

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ACTION H-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 RSC-01 /014 W
---------- 086306
R 171057Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5726

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 16728

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, IN, US
SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR CONGRESSMAN

PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO REP CLEMENT J. ZABLOCKI FROM AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN

1. I HAVE JUST SENT THE FOLLOWING CABLE TO SPEAKER MCCORMACK:

QUOTE: I AM HAPPPY TO REPORT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HAS NOW GIVEN ITS CLEARANCE TO A GRANT OF TWENTY SIX MILLION RUPEES TO FINISH CONSTRUCTION UNDER WAY AND PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FOR THE JOHN W. MCCORMACK CENTRE (WE HOPE NO ONE AT HOME MINDS THE BRITISH SPELLING) AT ST. JOHN'S MEDICAL SCHOOL, BANGALORE. THE PROJECT IS NOW ASSURED OF COMPLETION.

I VISITED BANGALORE LAST TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY. WENT ALL AROUND THE MEDICAL SCHOOL -- WHICH IS MOST IMPRESSIVE -- WITH DR. FRANCIS, WHO IS DEAN OF THE COLLEGE, AND THEN VISITED THE CONSTRUCTION SITE. YOU ALMOST HAVE TO GO THERE TO GET A FEELING FOR THE SIZE AND IMPORTANCE OF THIS HOSPITAL COMPLEX, AND ALSO FOR ITS BEAUTY.HAVING DRAFTED FOR PRESIDENT KENNEDY THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR FEDERAL ARCHITECTURE I LIKE TO THINK I FOLLOW SUCH MATTERS WITH SOME CARE, AND IT CAN HONESTLY ASSERT I HAVE NOT SEEN A MORE IMPRESSIVE COMBINATION OF DESIGN, LOW COST CONSTRUCTION, AND HIGH QUALITY RESULT. THE MAIN BUILDINGS OF THE
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MCCORMACK CENTRE ARE FIVE STORIES HIGH. THE WALLS

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ARE FACED WITH NINE INCH BLOCKS OF FITTED GRANITE. ALMOST ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD THE COST OF SUCH STONE WORK WOULD BE PROHIBITIVE, BUT IN SOUTHERN INDIA IT HAPPENS TO BE THE CHEAPEST MATERIAL AROUND. THE GRANTTE IS FILLED WITH MICA, SO THAT THE WALLS FAIRLY SPARKLE IN THE INDIAN SUN. ALL IN ALL A HEART WARMING AND GENUINELY WORTH WHILE PROJECT. IT IS JUST ABOUT THE ONLY THING WE ARE DOING IN INDIA THESE DAYS, BUT IT IS ENOUGH FOR ME TO HAVE SEEN IT IN MY LAST WEEKS HERE.

TUESDAY EVENING HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL PARECATTIL CAME FROM COCHIN TO HOST A DINNER FOR ME IN BANGALORE TO WHICH HE INVITED THE MEDICAL STAFF OF THE COLLEGE, AS WELL AS SOME OF THE LOCAL HIERARCHY. IN THE COURSE OF THE EVENING A FATHER JONAS TOLD OF MEETING AN IRISH PRIEST IN ROME AND BEING ASKED BY HIM JUST WHO BROUGHT CHRISTIANITY TO INDIA AND WHEN THE GOOD KERALA FATHER REPLIED THAT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE WAS THE FIRST CHRISTIAN IN INDIA, BUT THAT THE DATES OF HIS ARRIVAL IN KERALA ARE DISPUTED. WHICH, HE ADDED, TOOK THE WIND OUT OF THOSE COUNTRY CLARE SAILS.

ALL SEND THEIR REGARDS TO YOU. THEY SO MUCH HOPE YOU WILL VISIT BANGALORE SOMEDAY. PERHAPS FOR THE OPENING OF THE CENTRE WHICH SHOULD BE IN ABOUT FIFTEEN TO EIGHTEEN MONTHS. WE HAD SOME PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN OF THE OCCASION, I AM SENDING THEM ALONG TO YOU.

THIS WILL BE MY LAST MESSAGE TO YOU FROM NEW DELHI, BUT I DO HOPE MRS. MOYNIHAN AND I MIGHT HAVE THE HONOR OF HAVING YOU TO LUNCH SOMETIME IN CAMBRIDGE. IN THE MEANTIME, A MOST MERRY CHRISTMAS. RESPECTFULLY, DANIEL P. MOYNIHAN. END QUOTE.

2. I WOULD LIKE TO ADD MY GRATITUDE TO YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE TO MAKE THIS PROJECT POSSIBLE. I HOPE THE SPEAKER IS PLEASED. HE SURELY WOULD BE IF HE COULD VISIT BANGALORE.

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3. THE PUBLIC NEVER SAYS ITS THANKS VERY WELL, BUT THIS ONE MEMBER OF IT WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THE GREATEST APPRECIATION FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE FOR AMERICA AND THE WORLD IN A QUARTER CENTURY OF DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE.MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, HOSPITALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NEWDE16728
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740366-0956
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741229/aaaaaypk.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 OCT 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <09 JAN 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MESSAGE FOR CONGRESSMAN PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO REP CLEMENT J.
TAGS: EAID, IN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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